

Your Family Tree: 10

VOTERS', POLL AND FREEHOLDERS' RECORDS

Voters', Poll and Freeholders' records are lists of people entitled to vote, or of people who actually voted at elections. They are normally arranged on a county basis.

Poll books record the actual votes cast at parliamentary elections. They contain the name and address of the voter and often the address of the 'Freehold' which entitled the voter to his vote. Voters Lists and Freeholders registers give similar information to the Poll books but do not record how people voted at a particular election.

From 1727 to 1793 only Protestants with a freehold worth at least 40 shillings per year had a vote. Between 1793 and 1829 both Protestants and Roman Catholics with 40 shilling freeholds had votes. In 1829 all 40 shilling Freeholders lost the vote.

The most generally useful Poll books and Freeholders' registers are:

Co. Antrim	
D1364/L/1	'Deputy Court Cheque Book' Poll Book 1776 – covers only half the electorate. (<i>See transcript in catalogue</i>)
D2977/22/1-12	Printed Lists of freeholders, leaseholders etc, 1833-40 for Co. Antrim, and 1856-7 for the baronies of Cary, Upper and Lower Dunluce and Glenarm.
ANT/5	Registers of Voters, 1888-1939

Co. Armagh	
T808/14936	Poll Book 1753
T808/14949	Objections to Freeholders in poll book 1753
ARM/5/2/1-17	Freeholders' Lists 1813-32
T808/14934	Freeholders' Registers 1830-39 taken from the Newry Telegraph

T808/14961	Freeholders' List 1839 taken from the Newry Telegraph
T808/14927	Voters' List 1851
D1928/F/1A-103	Freeholders' Registers, c 1710, 1753 and 1800-30
D2394/3/5 and T281/5-6	Printed and typescript list of Freeholders for the Portadown district, 1747-53 and 1796-1802 (These were copied before 1922 by Canon Leslie from manuscripts in the Parliamentary Returns in the Public Record Office of Ireland)

Co. Donegal

T808/15006	Freeholders registered in Co Donegal, 1775-81 and 1789-90
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Co. Down

DOW/5/3/1 & 2	Registers of Freeholders 1777; 1780-85 and 1790-95
D654/A/3/1/B	Election Cheque Book with Freeholders Register 1789
T393/1	Freeholders' List (Lecale Barony only) c.1790
D654/A/3/1	Freeholders' Registers 1813-21 and 1824
T761/19 & 20	Freeholders' Lists c.1830
D671/O/2/5-6	Poll Book, Co. Down (Part of) 1852
D671/O/2/7-8	Poll Book, Co. Down (Part of) 1857

Co. Fermanagh

T808/15063	Freeholders' List 1747-63
T1385/1	Poll Book 1788
T543/1	Poll Book 1788
T808/15075	Poll Book 1788
D1096/92/1	Freeholders' List 1796-1802
FER/5/2/3/1-53	Registers of Voters, 1895-1946

Co. Derry/Londonderry

T3161/1/4	List of gentlemen and Freeholders who voted for James Lennox and William Jackson, 1697
D2094/46	Resolution of the Freeholders in Tamlaght Finlagan Parish about subscribing to a petition to Parliament, 1774
T2123	Freeholders' Registers (names A to L only) c.1813
T1048/1-3	City of Derry/Londonderry Registry Street List 1832
D834/4	Freeholders' Register, City & County of Derry/Londonderry c.1827
D1935/6	City of Derry/Londonderry Voters' List 1868

Co Tyrone

T808/15127	Tyrone Freeholders in the Cookstown area, 1768-95
TYR/5/3/1	Freeholders' List. (Dungannon Barony only) 1795-98
TYR/5/2/1-24	Registers of Voters, 1892-1915

Belfast

D2472/1	Poll Book for Belfast 1832-1837
BELF/5/1/1/1-2	Register of Voters, Belfast 1855 and 1876

Most of the Freeholders' records before 1840 have now been indexed and digitised and are available on the PRONI website.